

Amendments to the Joint Rules by

Polling of the Legislature

Requested by Senator Fred Thomas

For the Joint Rules Committee

Prepared by Julie Johnson

September 16, 2020

1. **INSERT NEW CHAPTER 50. "PROCLAMATIONS"**

2. **INSERT NEW JOINT RULE 50-05. "50-05. Legislative proclamations -- polling procedure. (1)**

When the Legislature is not in session, a joint legislative proclamation may be issued by the Legislature through the polling process. It may be used to express desire, opinion, sympathy, or request of the Legislature.

(2) A request to poll legislators on a proposed legislative proclamation may only be made by:

- (a) the Speaker of the House;
- (b) the President of the Senate;
- (c) an administrative committee; or
- (d) an interim committee.

(3) A request must be made in writing to the Legislative Services Division to poll the legislators to determine if a majority are in favor of issuing a legislative proclamation and must state:

- (a) the complete text of the proposed legislative proclamation; and
- (b) the name of the requesting party.

(4) Within 5 business days after receiving a request, the Legislative Services Division shall send to all legislators by mail and electronic mail a ballot that contains:

- (a) the name of the party making the request;
- (b) the complete text of the proposed legislative proclamation;
- (c) the date by which legislators shall return the ballot by mail, in person, or by electronic means, which may not be more than 30 days after the date of the mailing of the ballots; and
- (d) a stamped return envelope.

(5) If a majority of the legislators of each chamber reply affirmatively to the poll, the Legislative Services Division shall notify in writing:

- (a) the requesting party;
- (b) the Secretary of State;
- (c) the Secretary of the Senate;
- (d) the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives; and
- (e) the person or entity that the Legislature is addressing in the proclamation.

(6) The proclamation is deemed issued by the Legislature upon the Legislative Services Division receipt of affirmative replies to the poll by a majority of legislators from each chamber."

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